

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M.D. Vrbanac et al. Attorney Docket No.: WEYE118587/23109A  
Application No.: To be Assigned  
Filed: January 17, 2002  
Title: GRANULAR POLYSACCHARIDE HAVING  
ENHANCED SURFACE CHARGE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

January 17, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below.

In the Specification:

On page 1, after the title, please add:

Cross-Reference to Related Application

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/421,621, filed October 19, 1999, the benefit of the priority of the filing date of which is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

In the Claims:

Please add new Claims 56 and 57 as shown below:

56. (New) A method for forming a polysaccharide particle having a positive surface charge, comprising:

(a) combining a cationic additive and a slurry of a polysaccharide particle in water at about pH 10; and

(b) adjusting the pH to about pH 7.

LAW OFFICES OF  
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>  
1420 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 2800  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
206 682.8100

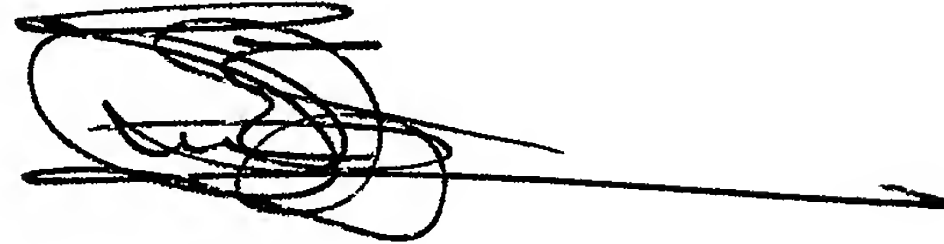
57. (New) A method for forming a polysaccharide particle having a positive surface charge, comprising combining a polysaccharide particle and a cationic additive in water at about pH 7.

REMARKS

By this amendment, Claims 1-57 are pending in the application

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR  
JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>



Lee E. Johnson  
Registration No. 22,946  
Direct Dial No. 206.695.1701

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Tanya Hebert  
(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

JM Hebert  
(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

LEJ:md

LAW OFFICES OF  
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>  
1420 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 2800  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
206.682.8100

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE JANUARY 17, 2002

In the Specification:

On page 1, after the title, the following has been added:

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In the Claims:

Claims 56 and 57 have been added.

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CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>  
1420 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 2800  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
206.682.8100